

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 3-7.

Please amend claim 8 as indicated below.

Please add new claims 9-12 as indicated below.

This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) An RNA comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said nucleotide sequence.

2. (Original) A DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in which uracil is replaced by thymine, or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said nucleotide sequence.

3-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A DNA encoding ~~the~~ a protein of claim 7 selected from the group of the following (a) to (c):

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 4 having deletion, substitution, or addition of one or more amino acids and having a protease activity to cleave peptide bonds between Gln-Ala, Gln-Ser, and Glu-Gly; and

(c) a protein derived from papaya leaf distortion mosaic virus encoded by a DNA which hybridizes to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 or a DNA

complementary to said nucleotide sequence under stringent conditions, and having a protease activity to cleave peptide bonds between Gln-Ala, Gln-Ser, and Glu-Gly.

9. (New) An RNA fragment selected from the group consisting of the following (1)-(5):

(1) the RNA fragment consisting of a nucleotide sequence which is identical to the nucleotides 136-1575 as shown in SEQ ID NO.: 1;

(2) the RNA fragment consisting of a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to the nucleotides 136-1575 as shown in SEQ ID NO.: 1;

(3) the RNA fragment which is part of the RNA fragment of (1) or (2) and has species-specificity sufficient to use it as an index in diagnosing infection with PLDMV;

(4) the RNA Fragment of (1), having deletion, substitution, or addition of one or more nucleotides, and coding P1 protein; and

(5) the RNA fragment of (2), having deletion, substitution, or addition of one or more nucleotides, and having species specificity sufficient to use it as an index in diagnosing infection with PLDMV.

10. (New) An RNA fragment selected from the group consisting of the following (1) and (2):

(1) the RNA fragment consisting of a nucleotide sequence which is identical to or complementary to the nucleotides 1-150 or the nucleotides 1200-1400 of the sequence of the nucleotides 136-1575 as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; and

(2) the RNA fragment of (1) having deletion, substitution or addition of one or more nucleotides, and having species specificity sufficient to use it as an index in diagnosing infection with PLDMV.

11. (New) A DNA fragment selected from the group consisting of the following (1)-(3):

(1) the DNA fragment consisting of the nucleotides 9064-9945, nucleotides 1576-2949, or nucleotides 7501-9063 as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in which uracil is replaced by thymine;

(2) the DNA fragment of (1) having deletion, substitution, or addition of one or more nucleotides, and coding capsid protein (CP), HC-Pro or Nib, respectively; and

(3) the DNA fragment corresponding to a part of the DNA fragment of (1) having a function to impart resistance against papaya leaf-distortion mosaic virus into a plant.

12. (New) A DNA fragment selected from the group consisting of the following (1)-(4):

(1) the DNA fragment consisting of the nucleotides 1-380 or the nucleotides 780-882 of the nucleotides 9064-9945 as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in which uracil is replaced by thymine;

(2) the DNA fragment consisting of the nucleotides 27-140 or the nucleotides 1280-1374 of the nucleotides 1576-2949 as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in which uracil is replaced by thymine;

(3) the DNA fragment consisting of the nucleotides 1-81 or the nucleotides 1447-1563 of the nucleotides 7501-9063 as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in which uracil is replaced by thymine;

and

(4) the DNA fragment of any one of (1)-(3) having deletion, substitution, or addition of one or more nucleotides, and having a function to impart resistance against PLDMV to the plant.